GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4175
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
POLLUTION IN VARIOUS CITIES
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Environmental Pollution Control Authorities for various cities to check the spread of pollution;

(b) whether the pollution in most of the cities other than Metropolitan cities is increasing;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have chalked out schemes to check spread of pollution in other cities also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of NGOs working in different States of the country to check the problem of pollution and the amount of funds being spent thereon by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (T.R. BAALU)

(a) There is no proposal to set up Environmental Pollution Control Authorities for various cities to check pollution.Besides the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards, the Ministry has constituted various authorities to deal with different matters relating to prevention and control of pollution and these include :

(i) The National Environment Appellate Authority;

(ii) Dahanu Taluka Environment (Protection) Authority;

(iii) Central Ground Water Authority;

(iv) Aquaculture Authority;

(v) The Water Quality Assessment Authority;

(vi) Loss of Ecology (Prevention and Payment of Compensation) Authority;

(vii) Environment (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Authority for the National Capital Region.

(b) to (d): The levels of pollution have been found increasing in some cities of the country due to increasing population, industrial activities and vehicular traffic and several schemes have been formulated for prevention and control of pollution which include :

(i) Comprehensive Plan on Prevention and Control of Vehicular Pollution;

(ii) Restoration of environmental quality in critically polluted areas;

(iii) Pollution control in highly polluting industries and industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes;

(iv) Preparation of Zoning Atlas for siting of industries based on environmental consideration;

(v) Action against defaulting industries through State Pollution Control Boards.

(e) Over four thousand Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have been involved in the environmental awareness campaign and approximately Rs. 2.5 crores of financial assistance had been provided to them during last year.